

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

IN THE  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
AND THE ISLE OF ELY



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

for

1972

M. E. HOCKEN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.  
Acting Medical Officer of Health,  
South Cambridgeshire Rural District Council,  
Shire Hall,  
Cambridge.  
*Tel. No.: Cambridge 58811*



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## GENERAL STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of the District	.. .. .	111,574 acres
Number of Parishes	.. .. .	49
Rateable Value 1/4/73	.. .. .	£4,573,613
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31/3/73	.. .. .	£14,082.87
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	.. .. .	13,712
Provisional estimated mid-year Home Population based on the 1971 Census	.. .. .	37,980
Census Population 1971	.. .. .	36,756

The district is one of six rural districts in the County and is the second largest in population and acreage. It stretches some 28 miles across the Southern end of the County and forms a common boundary with parts of the Counties of Huntingdon and Peterborough, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Essex and Suffolk. Geologically the area differs somewhat, from the chalk hills to the South and East, to the clay and lower greensand outcrop in the West, and in the main it supports arable farming.

There is some industrial development of a divergent nature and this is increasing. The manufacture of paper, leather, agricultural equipment, cement, synthetic adhesives, concrete castings, asbestos cement products and research into metals, plastics and more recently agricultural chemicals, are but a few of the industries.

Birth Rate	18.5
(Corrected)	17.4
Death Rate	9.3
(Corrected)	9.9
Infant Mortality Rate	17
(Per thousand live births)	

## MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

*Chairman:* Councillor J. T. C. Robinson, M.B.E.

*Vice-Chairman:* Councillor Brig. J. M. F. Cartwright, C.B.E.

### *Councillors:*

Andrews, H. B., M.B.E.  
 Barnes, S. A.  
 Bligh, Mrs. A. D.  
 Brown, J. J.  
 Cannon, Mrs. R. L.  
 Cartwright, A. B.  
 Chamberlain, J. J.  
 Child, G.  
 Clark, J. W.  
 Cornish, W. A.  
 Davies, H.  
 Dyball, Miss M. F. L.  
 Dyball, E. F.  
 Fairey, G. S. R.  
 Garland, Dr. J. G.  
 Gough, E. G.  
 Harvey, S. G.  
 Horsford, F. W.

Jackson, R. C.  
 Jenner, Mrs. M. E. F.  
 Kitchener, H. T.  
 McGregor, Air Cdre. A. A., C.B.E.  
 Murfitt, F. W., J.P.  
 Pearson, W. H.  
 Pedley, V. A.  
 Pepper, Mrs. M.  
 Powles, P. W.  
 Randall, P.  
 Rider, H. C.  
 Robinson, Mrs. D. I.  
 Samworth, E.  
 Sells, Mrs. B. C.  
 Thorne, Lt. Col. F. W. P. C.  
 Welch, C.  
 White, E. R.

## STAFF

*Acting Medical Officer of Health:*  
*Chief Public Health Inspector:*  
*Senior Additional Public Health Inspector:*  
*Additional Public Health Inspectors:*

*Senior Meat Inspector:*  
*Meat Inspectors:*

*Clerical Staff:*

M. E. Hocken, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
 R. J. Hoyle, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
 P. Cocks, M.A.P.H.I.  
 P. G. Allston, M.A.P.H.I.  
 P. A. Burnett, M.A.P.H.I.  
 W. Duncan, M.R.S.A.S.  
 N. J. K. Low, M.R.S.H.  
 D. McKee, M.Inst.M.  
 Mrs. C. A. Birchenall.  
 Mrs. V. J. Taylor.

**ANNUAL REPORT 1972**  
**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

To the Chairman and Members  
of the  
South Cambridgeshire Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the report for the year 1972, prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/73 dated 1st January, 1973. It is commended to you, and to the general public of the district, as a most interesting, detailed and informative account of the work undertaken for the health of the community.

I would wish to express to all concerned, members and colleagues, my most sincere thanks for all their help, encouragement and advice during the year.

M. E. HOCKEN

Acting Medical Officer of Health



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## VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

(The mid-year home population is used for the statistical calculations)

LIVE BIRTHS								Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	337	345	682
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	7	19
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	349	352	701
Birth rate per thousand estimated population								..	..	18.5
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (0.94)								..	..	17.4
Birth rate per thousand population (England and Wales)								..	..	14.8
STILL BIRTHS								Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	4	10
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	4	10
Rate per thousand live and still births								..	..	14
Rate per thousand live and still births (England and Wales)								..	..	12
DEATHS								Male	Female	Total
								193	160	353
Death rate per thousand estimated population								..	..	9.3
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (1.06)								..	..	9.9
Death rate per thousand population (England and Wales)								..	..	12.1
INFANT MORTALITY. (Deaths of infants under one year of age).								Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 (4)	4 (2)	12 (6)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 (4)	4 (2)	12 (6)
(Deaths of infants under four weeks of age are shown in brackets.)										
Infant mortality rate. (Infant deaths under one year per thousand live births)								..	..	17
Infant mortality rate. (England and Wales)								..	..	17
Neonatal mortality rate. (Infant deaths under four weeks per thousand live births)								..	..	9
Early neonatal mortality rate. (Infant deaths under one week per thousand live births)								..	..	7
Perinatal mortality rate. (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per thousand live and still births)								..	..	21
Legitimate infant mortality rate per thousand legitimate live births								..	..	18
Illegitimate infant mortality rate per thousand illegitimate live births								..	..	—
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births								..	..	3 %
Maternal deaths (deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)								..	..	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per thousand live and still births								..	..	Nil
Deaths from cancer (all ages)								..	..	66
Deaths from tuberculosis (all ages)								..	..	Nil
Deaths from Ischaemic Heart Disease								..	..	74

### CERTAIN COMPARATIVE RATES

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
* Birth Rate	17.8	17.9	20.6	20.1	18.9	18.5	16.4	17.6	17.2	17.7	18.5
* Death Rate	12.2	12.2	10.6	12.1	10.1	8.6	10.7	10.6	10.2	10.5	9.3
Infant Mortality Rate	9.4	21.9	7.8	19.8	18.8	10.8	15.2	15.1	23.0	9.0	17.0
	(5)	(12)	(5)	(13)	(12)	(7)	(9)	(10)	(10)	(3)	(6)

\* The above rates are uncorrected. The figures in brackets are the number of infant deaths in each year.

### TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS

								Male	Female	Total
Under 4 weeks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	6
4 weeks and under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	6
1 and under 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
5 and under 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
15 and under 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
25 and under 35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
35 and under 45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
45 and under 55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6	9
55 and under 65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	19	53
65 and under 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	39	88
75 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	94	89	183
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	193	160	353

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE AREA

#### *Medical Officer of Health*

Under arrangements made by the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council under Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1933, the Medical Officer of Health to South Cambridgeshire Rural District Council and Chesterton Rural District Council is combined with the appointment of Senior Medical Officer to the County Council by securing for the appointment of a full time Medical Officer from 1st September 1968.

#### *Public Health Inspectors*

Mr. R. J. Hoyle continued as Chief Public Health Inspector during the year and was assisted by Mr. Cocks, Mr. Allston and Mr. Burnett. The three Meat Inspectors, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Low and Mr. D. McKee also continued in the Council's service.

#### *Laboratory Facilities*

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. The Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, undertake bacteriological examinations of milk and bacteriological examinations of water supplies, and all necessary examinations in cases of infectious disease.

#### *Hospitals*

There are no General Hospitals situated in the area. Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are sent to the Cambridge City Isolation Hospital. The old Poor Law Institution at Linton is now a residential home for approximately 100 aged persons.

### THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASE) REGULATIONS, 1968

One notice was issued during the year under these Regulations.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1972

### NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS, 1972

Age in years	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Infective Jaundice
Under 1 year	—	—	1	—	—
1	1	—	1	—	—
2	—	1	3	—	—
3	1	2	1	1	—
4	1	1	1	—	—
5—9	4	3	10	1	1
10—14	2	—	1	—	—
15—24	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over	1	—	—	1	1
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	10	7	18	3	2
1971 Totals	27	13	347	8	4

Age in years	Food Poisoning
Under 5	1
5—14	1
15—44	3
45—64	1
65 and over	—
Age unknown	—
Total	6
1971 Total	6

### TUBERCULOSIS

During the year two respiratory cases were notified for the first time. The number of cases remaining on the register at the end of the year increased by two.

### TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1972

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. Number of Cases on Register at Commencement of year .. .. .	15	15	4	7	19	22
2. Number of Cases notified for first time during year under Regulations ..	1	1	—	—	1	1
3. Cases restored to Register .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Cases added to Register otherwise than by notification under Regulations:—						
(a) Transferred from other Districts ..	2	—	—	—	2	—
(b) From Death Returns .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Number of Cases removed from Register .. .. .	2	—	—	—	2	—
6. Number of Cases remaining on Register at end of year .. .. .	16	16	4	7	20	23

## AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION

### RESPIRATORY AND NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS CASES ON REGISTER 31.12.72

AGE GROUP	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL		GRAND TOTAL
	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	
0—15	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
16—25	—	—	2	—	2	—	2
26—35	1	2	5	3	6	5	11
36—45	4	1	2	3	6	4	10
46—55	3	—	3	1	6	1	7
56—64	4	1	1	—	5	1	6
65 and over	3	—	3	—	6	—	6
TOTALS	16	4	16	7	32	11	43

*National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47*

*National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, Section 1*

No action was necessary during the year under these Acts.

*National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 50*

One burial was affected under the provisions of this section.

REPORT  
OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

R. J. HOYLE, M.R.S.H.,  
Public Health Dept.,  
SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE HALL,  
HILLS ROAD,  
CAMBRIDGE.  
Telephone 51795

To the Chairman and  
Members of the Council.

October 1973.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Due to the re-organisation of local government resulting in the merger of South Cambridgeshire Rural District with that of Chesterton Rural District, this will be the final annual report I shall present to the South Cambridgeshire Rural District Council, which I have had the pleasure of serving since 1946.

From the time of the Council's inauguration in 1934 it has made much progress, particularly in the post-war years, in the field of basic environmental facilities, i.e. housing, refuse service, water supplies and sewerage. Improvements less obvious to the general public have been made in the spheres of food hygiene including meat inspection, atmospheric pollution and, in the welfare of sedentary and shop workers, but to mention a few.

However as our way of life becomes evermore complex so society must be watchful to protect its own natural environment and it is with this thought that I look forward to serving the succeeding authority, South Cambridgeshire District Council.

I wish to record my thanks to the Council and to my brother officers and staff, for their sustaining help and loyalty.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. J. HOYLE, M.R.S.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

## Summary of Visits and Inspections Recorded during the Year:—

TOTAL INSPECTIONS RECORDED	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,417
Complaints Investigated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	315
Housing:										
General Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	284
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	589
Infectious Diseases:										
General Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	134
Water Supply:										
Inspections and Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Visits re Water Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70
Food and Drugs Act:										
Inspection of Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
Meat Inspection by Public Health Inspectors at Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	177
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Catering Establishments	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65
Ice-Cream premises and Sales Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Other Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	174
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Food Conveying Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Preserved Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Factories Act:										
Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	121
Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81
Noise Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	93
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	232
Public Cleansing, including visits to Depot and Pulverising Plant	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	600
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	415
Swimming Pool Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77
Petroleum Storage Regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108
Animal Boarding Establishments Act Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89
Scrap Metal Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Civic Amenities Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	132
Miscellaneous Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	472



## HOUSING

### Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

Houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners .. .. .	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. .. .	Nil
Houses rendered reasonably fit after informal action .. .. .	40

### Proceedings under Housing Act, 1957:

Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.. .. .	6
Houses demolished due to formal action: .....	
(a) By owners .. .. .	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. .. .	Nil
Houses demolished as a result of informal action .. .. .	12
Local Authority owned houses demolished after being declared unfit by Medical Officer of Health .. .. .	8
Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made (Section 17) .. .. .	4
Undertakings in respect of houses represented as unfit (Section 16):	
(a) Undertakings given by owners to make fit .. .. .	Nil
(b) Undertakings given by owners not to use for human habitation .. .. .	11
Buildings in respect of part of which Closing Orders were made (Section 18) .. .. .	Nil
Houses made fit and Closing Orders, Demolition Orders or Undertakings cancelled .. .. .	6

### Housing Progress during the year ending 31.3.73:

Bungalows erected by the Council .. .. .	17
Flats erected by the Council .. .. .	Nil
Houses erected by the Council.. .. .	29
Dwellings erected by private enterprise .. .. .	255
Total number of dwellings erected by the Council since 1945 .. .. .	2,872

The Council's Architect, Engineer & Surveyor reports the following statistics in connexion with improvement grants to private dwellings for the year ending 31st March, 1973:—

Number of applications received for Standard Grant .. .. .	53
Number of applications approved for Standard Grant .. .. .	37
Number of applications received for Discretionary Grant .. .. .	115
Number of applications approved for Discretionary Grant .. .. .	88

There remain but few totally unfit dwellings and these are scattered sporadically throughout the district. With the rising cost of land and housing, owners having such dwellings with vacant possession easily find willing purchasers, who either clear the site for rebuilding, or more usually, with the aid of a financial grant, renovate the property.

Twenty-seven dwellings have been demolished and six other properties have had Closing Orders cancelled subsequent to their being made fit for habitation.

Housing improvement grants remain attractive and dwellings modernised with the aid of discretionary grants have further increased.

The requirement of owners to repair tenanted dwellings has in only one case necessitated the serving of a formal notice with which the owner failed to comply until the Court made a Nuisance Order. Forty dwellings have been made reasonably fit for continued occupation, and in all the inspectorate record 873 visits and inspections of dwellings.

**PARTICULARS OF POPULATION AND NUMBERS OF DWELLING HOUSES IN THE RESPECTIVE PARISHES**

Parish	Acreage	Population Census 1971	Number of dwellings as at 31/3/73
Great Abington	1,588	690	229
Little Abington	1,309	341	141
Abington Pigotts	1,237	140	55
Arrington	1,407	350	136
Babraham	2,387	325	115
Balsham	4,550	1,204	489
Barrington	2,282	823	307
Bartlow	422	70	30
Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth	4,083	3,015	957 (185)
Carlton	2,415	141	60
Castle Camps	3,148	442	200
Shudy Camps	2,362	280	92
Great Chishill	3,737	388	171
Little Chishill			
Croydon	2,734	205	79
Duxford	3,269	1,560	568
Great Eversden	1,400	232	79
Little Eversden	790	432	158
Fowlmere	2,335	587	233
Foxton	1,752	811	321
Gamlingay	3,357	2,315	926
Hatley	2,200	179	63
Heydon	1,633	138	70
Hildersham	1,511	177	78
Hinxton	1,564	260	103
Horseheath	1,922	376	149
Ickleton	2,663	526	218
Kingston	1,907	221	73
Linton	3,947	2,710	1,005
Litlington	2,172	635	240
Little Gransden	1,920	228	89
Longstowe	1,544	185	71
Melbourn	4,480	2,850	1,055
Meldreth	2,513	1,505	460
Guiden Morden	2,599	590	259
Steeple Morden	3,846	837	315
Orwell	2,083	699	270
Pampisford	1,607	370	136
Sawston	1,898	5,597	1,971
Shepreth	1,318	536	212
Shingay-cum-Wendy	1,791	103	41
Tadlow	1,743	96	42
Thriplow	2,501	721	297 (110)
West Wickham	2,931	340	131
West Wrattling	3,543	386	153
Weston Colville	3,235	385	149
Whaddon	1,515	433	169 (58)
Whittlesford	1,976	1,190	483 (31)
Wimpole	2,468	136	64

Figures in brackets are included in the main figure and represent Army dwellings.



## CARAVANS

The rising cost of the more traditional type of dwelling is reflected in the number of enquiries and applications received for the use of caravans. In general, and apart from the more palatial type of caravan sometimes referred to as "a mobile home", this type of dwelling is unsuitable in which to raise a family and in many instances serves merely as a stop-gap pending a more permanent home.

The inspection of caravan sites numbered 232 and resulted from the initial inspection of sites, the routine inspection to ascertain compliance with licence conditions and the investigation of complaints. The following statistics apply for the year ending 31.12.72:—

Number of licensed sites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86
Total number of caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	114
Number of site licences renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Number of new sites licensed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Number of site licence applications refused Planning permission	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of unlicensed sites found (mainly occupied by itinerant Travellers')	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Total number of site licence contraventions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Number of families rehoused by the Council from caravans within the District	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

The problem of the gypsy type caravanner whose nomadic existence causes numerous complaints has been the subject of much thought and discussion. The County Council are required under the Caravan Sites Act 1968 to provide suitable sites where encampments may be established. Various prospective sites have been inspected by a Sub-Committee of the District Council but an acceptable site has yet to be found. In the meantime several green roads where caravanners congregate, some of whom carry on the business of motor vehicle dismantling, are visited from time to time by the Council's refuse vehicles who remove quantities of rubbish. Arrangements for the removal of useless car bodies from these sites is also made with the Council's contractors. It is essential that suitable sites for these people be found as quickly as possible in order that application may be made to the Ministry for authorisation to prohibit unauthorised camping in the remaining area. Should adjacent Counties acquire such prohibition before this area then an influx of caravanners into the district can be expected.

## WATER SUPPLIES

Piped water supplies to all the parishes have been adequately maintained by The Cambridge Water Company and to a small area adjacent the Hertfordshire boundary, by the Lea Valley Water Company. All water supplies are chlorinated at source merely as an added safeguard. The bulk of supplies are from boreholes into the chalk strata which produce a first class water although somewhat 'hard'. Check samples are taken on a routine basis from various consumers premises and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service.

The level of natural fluoride in the water supply is below the optimum level designed to combat teeth decay and this is to be adjusted by the addition of fluoride. However, the area of supply by The Cambridge Water Company is such that the work will be phased over a period of time and it is understood that South Cambridgeshire area will be included in the final phase. Several unsatisfactory private water supplies have been replaced by supplies from new boreholes or where possible by mains supply.

## RESULTS OF WATER SUPPLY SAMPLES

Type of Supply	Bacteriologically Satisfactory	Bacteriologically Unsatisfactory
Public Piped supplies	27	—
Private supplies	31	17

## **SWIMMING POOLS**

Numerous checks of pool waters to assess alkalinity and chlorine content etc. have been made during the seventy-seven visits recorded by the public health inspectors to the nineteen pools now in use at schools throughout the district. The teachers or caretakers daily in charge of the pools are, by and large, well versed in the maintenance of a good water and know that advice can be obtained from the public health inspector should this be needed. Chlorination of the various pools is effected either by the addition of a liquid hypochlorite or in one case by chlorine gas. All but two of the pools have sand or diatomaceous earth filters and nine pools are heated.

## **SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE**

The continued progress made in providing public sewers reduces the numbers of complaints received in connexion with drainage matters. The service of two formal notices to connect dwellings to the public sewer have been complied with by the owner. In most cases it is unnecessary to take formal measures. However, owners of properties seek advice in these matters and this accounts for a proportion of the 415 visits recorded by the public health inspectors.

During the year sewerage of the parishes of Hildersham, Great Abington and Little Abington were completed together with the extension to the Linton Sewage Works.

Parishes currently being sewerage are, Little Eversden and Great Eversden, with completion expected early 1973. Horseheath, West Wickham and New Wimpole, expected completion Summer 1973. Shudy Camps and Castle Camps, expected completion 1974. Kingston sewerage is being linked up with Chesterton Rural District sewerage scheme for Bourn which should be completed in 1973.

Tenders for sewerage of the parishes of Fowlmere, Thriplow and Whaddon will be invited early in 1973.

Extensions to Gamlingay Sewage Works are in hand with further stages to follow by 1975 which together with a sewerage extension will cater for a population as envisaged by 1981.

Tenders for extensions to Sawston Sewage Works and Sludge Press will be obtained shortly. This work together with additional sewers is to be completed by 1975.

The Sewage Works in Litlington Parish are to be extended mainly to deal with an increased flow from an adjacent abattoir. Completion is anticipated in early 1975.

Further schemes being prepared are for the parishes of Great Chishill, Little Chishill and Heydon which will be drained to proposed treatment works within Saffron Walden Rural District and completion is anticipated by 1976. The sewerage of West Wrating and Weston Colville together with extensions to Balsham Sewage Works also have an anticipated completion date in 1976.

Further parishes to which priority has been given include Little Gransden, Carlton and Abington Pigotts.

It is the Council's policy to provide public conveniences in the larger villages and apart from Sawston in which a public convenience has already been constructed, sites have been obtained in Melbourn and Linton.

## **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

### **Refuse Collection Service**

A weekly domestic refuse collection exists throughout the district supplemented by special collections of bulky household refuse. As a further facility householders may deposit items such as garden refuse, dismantled sheds, fencing etc. at the Council's refuse tip situated on the A.505 at Thriplow. The tip is open Monday to Friday and on Saturdays until noon. The disposal of chemical waste and other toxic substances are prohibited.



During the year a bonus/productivity scheme was put into operation which, combined with the change-over from refuse bins to polythene sacks which was introduced earlier, has improved the lot of the refuse collectors and made this type of work more acceptable. However the cost of sacks amounts to approximately £11,300 per annum and householders are urged to be economic in their requirements. Refuse sacks are made available at cost price to catering and certain other establishments. Refuse sack holders may also be purchased from the Council.

All refuse from the rural district together with that from Royston U.D.C. plus approximately one-fifth of the total refuse from Chesterton R.D.C. is received at the Council's pulverising plant situated in Thriplow parish. Here the refuse is pulverised and disposed as landfill in an adjacent worked out gravel pit. The plant and tip are controlled by a plant operator and two men. The cost of refuse treatment and disposal is borne by the three Authorities.

With the inception of Work Study methods combined with the refuse sack scheme, the collection vehicle fleet has been reduced to four vehicles plus one standby. A new compression type refuse vehicle replaced one of earlier design and further replacements are envisaged in the coming year.

The servicing and maintenance of all vehicles operated by the Public Health Department which includes five refuse vehicles, three suction tankers, one tractor, one mechanical shovel and three vans, is accomplished by a full-time fitter with ancillary help.

There was a shortage of heavy goods vehicle drivers during the year and arrangements were made for drivers and prospective drivers to obtain driving tuition prior to taking their heavy goods vehicle driving tests.

Refuse collection and disposal figures for the year ending 31.3.73:—

Estimated number of clearances from properties	..	..	..	..	..	681,500
Metric tonnage of refuse collected and disposed	..	..	..	..	..	8,003
Total mileage travelled by refuse vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	58,701

Metric tonnage of refuse delivered to the Pulverising Plant for the year ending 31.3.73:—

Chesterton R.D.C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,775
Royston U.D.C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,490
South Cambs. R.D.C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,003

### Civic Amenities Act 1967—Disposal of Unwanted Motor Vehicles

It is incumbent on the Council to provide a site at which residents of the rural district may deposit unwanted motor vehicles. Such vehicles are received at the Council's refuse tip at Thriplow. The abandonment of motor vehicles in the open air or on the highway is an offence, but considerable difficulty is experienced in tracing owners of such vehicles. Vehicles are removed by the Council's contractors and, where possible the cost of the removal and disposal is recovered from the owners.

The public health department liaises with the County Motor Vehicle Taxation Department relative to particulars of disposed vehicles and the tracing of owners.

The following summarises the work of removal:—

Number of vehicles removed by owners after Council intervention	..	..	..	24
Number of vehicles removed by Council either by direct labour or by Contractor	..	..	..	22

Original location of above vehicles:—

Highways and Footpaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Council Land	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Private Land	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

The inspector staff have recorded 132 visits in the control of abandoned vehicles.



### Cesspool Emptying Service

This request service is available to domestic type premises not capable of being connected to a public sewer. Three vehicles are thus engaged, having a capacity of between 1,100 and 1,500 gallons, one of which is engaged whole time in attending to parish and housing site sewage works.

The disposal of sewage sludge and cesspool contents is generally effected at the refuse tip where it presents no problem, being covered over with pulverised refuse. Advantage of disposal on arable land is taken wherever possible.

The charges for this service have remained the same since 1955 and are as follows:—£1.75 per first vehicle load with subsequent loads at £0.75 each. The rising cost of maintaining this service has necessitated a portion being borne by the general rate.

Work completed for the year ending 31.3.73:—

Private Work	Council Work	Total Mileage
Loads	Loads	
1,570	2,461	50,242

### Review of Waste Disposal Facilities

In April the Department of the Environment issued Circular 37/72 which required local authorities to furnish detailed information on all tipping facilities in their areas whether Council or privately operated.

A survey was made of two Council tips and four privately operated ones. Details required included, annual tonnage of refuse deposited, future capacity of tip, method of disposal, type of disposed material and, whether planning approval had been obtained. Each tip was mapped and details forwarded to the Department of Geological Sciences and to the River Authority for added information, after which the completed surveys will be sent to the Department of the Environment.

### Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act 1972

Due to the general disquiet felt over the indiscriminate dumping of cyanide and other poisonous wastes, the above legislation was placed on the Statute Book. The Act has two main features. It makes it an offence to deposit any poisonous, noxious or polluting waste such as to give rise to an environmental hazard, and it also introduces a system of notification of intention to remove such substances, for disposal. Regulations which came into force in August set out methods of documentation and notification. No site within the rural district is used for such disposals.

Numerous individual notices of intention to remove waste substances, concerned three manufacturing factories in the rural district engaged in the use and processing of chemicals and minerals and related to the following quantities:—

Total amount of disposed substances for period ending 31.12.72:—

39,350 gallons  
520 cubic yards  
186 tons

### PEST DESTRUCTION

A free service for the destruction of rats in and about private dwellings has operated for many years and is one which the public greatly appreciates.

At present one rat catcher is employed but with an expanding district, population and building-wise, his activities are fully stretched. However at the time of reporting the establishment is to be increased by an additional operator which will permit of a more comprehensive service being given. Poisons currently in use include the blood anti-coagulants and the more acute poisons such as zinc phosphide and alpha chloralose. Some gassing by use of cyanide dust blown into rat runs has proved very effective, although instances where this poison can safely be used are few.

A rabbit infestation on land bordering a Council disused refuse pit at West Wrattling responded well to such gassing. Further treatments included the eradication of wasps nests in twelve Council houses and five other locations were treated for insect infestation.

Permission was sought by a private firm to use fluoroacetamide rat poison in a system of private sewers. However this was not agreed to since the degree of danger could not be assessed due to the fact that the sewers drained to the Council sewage works and finally into a local river.

A slight rat infestation occurred in the sewers in Gamlingay parish but prompt eradication measures were undertaken.

The following summarises the year's work to the 31.12.72:—

Premises Visited	Complaints	Routine	Revisits	Infested	Non-Infested
Business Premises	1	14	3	8	7
Private Dwellings	442	72	892	445	69
Council Dwellings	63	32	141	77	18
Sewage Works	24	60	133	58	26
Refuse Tips	—	22	89	8	14
Miscellaneous Locations	11	36	68	39	8
Totals	541 (497)	236 (176)	1,326 (1,132)	635 (584)	142 (89)

The figures in brackets denote the previous year's figures.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Few factory furnaces in the district are now fired by solid fuel, oil having become the major fuel. There is the tendency in the range of medium sized furnaces to use 35 seconds oil since this has a minimal sulphur content and its use is reflected in the lower chimney heights required for the dispersal of sulphurous gases.

Three applications for prior approval of furnace installations were received but only two were granted, both subject to some amendment of the original proposals. A proposal to install an industrial incinerator was not approved. Where furnaces rated in excess of 55,000Btu's/hr. are proposed, the local authority is required to receive either application for prior approval or a notice of intention to install. Thirty-seven notices of intention were received.

Contraventions giving rise to smoke nuisances included such matters as the burning of manure, recovery of metal wire by burning off insulations, defective operation of an incinerator for waste paper disposal and the discharge of black smoke from a chimney. After intervention by the department the nuisances were abated without the necessity of formal action.



Other forms of pollution with which the department has been concerned include that of dust discharges to atmosphere from factory premises and the discharge of chemical solvents. Approval was given under Section 10 of the Clean Air Act 1956 to the discharge to atmosphere of specified quantities of chemical solvents via a 50 ft. high flue. In this instance collaboration with the Alkali Inspector was sought.

The public health inspectorate recorded a total of eighty-one visits under this heading.

### NOISE ABATEMENT

Ninety-three visits are recorded in the control of noise. The following table sets out details of noise complaints and investigations dealt with during the year:—

Complaints received of noise arising from:—

Industrial premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Commercial premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Domestic premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Other premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Sixteen complaints were confirmed as being statutory nuisances and action was taken to effect abatement which included, inter alia, the repositioning of an electrical generator in a sound insulated building, and the re-location of an air compressor plant.

The issue of formal abatement notices to secure the cessation of noise has not been necessary but certain works in connexion with the abatement of noise arising from industrial plant cyclones are not yet completed.

The proposal to install a North Sea gas compressor station in the rural district gave rise to some doubt as to the effectiveness of the sound insulation of the jet engines used for this purpose. In consequence the Gas Council invited members of the district Council to inspect a similar plant installed in Staffordshire. The degree of sound attenuation attained at this plant was remarkable and in consequence fears were allayed that a noise nuisance would result from the proposed installation. In company with technicians of the Gas Council a sound level survey of the proposed area was made during night-time to assess ambient sound levels. At the time of reporting the installation is under construction and on completion further sound levels will be ascertained.

The public are fast realising that sound in the form of unwanted noise can be a nuisance which admits of a remedy. Unfortunately the Noise Act 1960 excludes action being taken in respect of vehicular traffic and aircraft noise, two growing forms of noise nuisance.

### RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT 1960

The Act controls the storage, use and disposal of radioactive material. Seven registered users of radioactive isotopes, mainly in sealed sources, are subject to inspection by the Radiochemicals Officers of the Department of the Environment. During the year three amended certificates of registration have been issued by the D.O.E. One certificate permits disposal of radioactive contaminated laboratory glassware and associated equipment, through the Council's refuse collection service. Fifty periodic disposals of such materials have been delivered at the Council's refuse pulverising plant where they were processed along with normal refuse. The amount of radioactivity of such material was low and they included isotopes of hydrogen, carbon, iodine, sodium and phosphorus. Such disposals are strictly controlled in accordance with the Certificate.

### OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The Act has done much to control the environmental conditions of workers in offices, shops and railway premises.

Set out below are the types and numbers of registered premises, and the numbers of persons employed therein, together with a summary of contraventions which required attention. Some provisions of the Act which apply to food premises were capable of being dealt with under the Food Hygiene Regulations and these have not been recorded here. It is pertinent to point out however that where, in the case of offices, these are within the curtilage of factory premises, such are the responsibility of the H.M. Factories Inspectorate.

Accidents occurring to employees which prove fatal or incapacitate to a minimum period of three days, are required to be notified to the local authority. Two non-fatal accidents were notified and in one of these cases a full investigation was undertaken by the public health inspector which resulted in additional safeguards being required to a fork-lift truck.

The public health inspectors have made a total of eight-one initial inspections of premises.

Class of Premises	No. on Register at Year's end	No. of Persons Employed
Offices .. .. .	27	535
Retail Shops .. .. .	82	250
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses .. .. .	3	80
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens .. .. .	24	103
Fuel Storage Depots .. .. .	3	11
Totals .. .. .	139	1,015 Males 554 Females 461

#### Analysis of contraventions found:—

Cleanliness .. .. .	1
Temperature .. .. .	2
Ventilation .. .. .	7
Lighting .. .. .	1
Sanitary conveniences .. .. .	1
Washing facilities .. .. .	2
Seating facilities .. .. .	1
First aid equipment .. .. .	5
Other matters .. .. .	7

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Investigations under this heading have been mainly confined to preventing the spread of dysentery and Salmonella infections and 134 visits are recorded. Much assistance has been given by the Public Health Laboratory Service to whom faecal and other specimens have been submitted.

### THE INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES AND EXAMINATION OF FOOD

The Food and Drugs Act 1955 permits Regulations to be made covering various aspects of food manufacture, labelling, handling and sale, etc. Two sets of Regulations governing conditions relating to food are The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 and The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966. These are reinforced by non-statutory Codes of Practice the most recent of which covers Hygiene in Micro-wave Cooking.



The following premises come within the scope of the Food Hygiene Legislation:—

Wholesale food warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Grocery and general	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
Butchery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Bakery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Sweets and confectionery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Public Houses and hotels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89
Cafes and restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
Factories and workplace canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Fried and wet fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
School meals kitchens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Hospital and homes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Clubs and Associations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Poultry Processing Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Agricultural Units	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8

As the establishment of food premises does not require statutory prior approval by a local authority under the Food & Drugs Acts, close scrutiny of plans submitted for planning and building regulation approval is necessary together with the systematic routine inspection of the district so as to secure compliance with prescribed safeguards.

The total number of initial inspections and re-inspections of food premises made by the inspectorate were 366. Various matters were found to require attention and works were completed and contraventions attended to at thirty premises.

Three bakehouses ceased to manufacture during the year and of the remaining six, which are all small in character, one was modernised and further extended.

A new restaurant became established and the kitchen and food preparation area of another was completely gutted and re-equipped.

### Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955

Premises in which a special risk of food contamination is more likely to occur are required to be registered under the Act, such premises number as follows:—

Storage and sale of ice cream	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	107
Manufacture for sale of sausages, and other preserved and pickled foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Fish Frying	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bacon Smoking	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

The above includes the registration during the year of a further three premises for the retail sale of ice cream and of a newly constructed premises for the manufacture of sausages and certain other foods.

Thirty-nine inspections of the premises, other than for ice cream sales as listed in the following section, have been recorded.

### Ice Cream

The majority of the ice cream sold in the district is manufactured by large national producers and is sold pre-wrapped. Twenty-six samples of ice cream including one water-ice-lolly have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for bacterial examinations and five samples failed to come up to the necessary standard. Repeated unsatisfactory samples of unwrapped ice cream at one retailer's premises pointed to a failure in sterilising the serving utensils. Samples of the water in which the scoops were rinsed showed unaccountable numbers of bacteria. Test samples of rinse waters with the correct amount of sterilant gave negative results. In consequence the Vendor decided to discontinue the sale of unwrapped ice cream. Two samples of coldmix ice cream obtained from retailers vehicles based outside the rural district, proved to be satisfactory.



Temperature checks of ice cream conservators at premises and on vehicles were found to be within the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1963. There are no ice cream manufacturers within the rural district.

### Milk Supplies

Production and control of milk supplies calls for little comment. There is one producer/retailer and seventeen producers of milk in the rural district. Virtually all milk sold is heat treated by the larger type of Creamery. The district Council has on register four distributors of milk and one dairy. The licensing of dealers for the sale of designated milk is the concern of the County Food & Drug Authority whilst production at the farm is in the hands of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food.

### Food Conveying Vehicles

The control of food sales vehicles is a matter of routine inspection as and when one becomes aware of their existence which, if they are not based within the rural district, becomes more difficult. Twenty-five vehicles have been inspected and in eleven instances matters required attention. As approximately 50% of the vehicles inspected were not based within the rural district the local authorities in whose areas the vehicles are based are advised of any matters requiring attention in order that follow-up inspections can be made.

In general, warning letters have been issued but in no case were legal proceedings instituted.

### Food Inspection

During inspections of food premises attention is given to perishable and semi-perishable foods with regards to their shelf life.

Several complaints of the sale of food in an unsatisfactory condition would have been obviated if Vendors took the trouble to check their food stocks and where necessary adopt a system of coding. However, more manufacturers are now operating the open coding of food, thus not only the Vendor but also the purchaser can ascertain the shelf life of goods.

Food destroyed by the department resulting from refrigeration breakdown, heads the list of reasons for condemnation. One particular case involved 6½ cwt. of pre-cooked deep frozen meals.

All complaints of alleged unsound and stale foods sold or offered for sale are investigated and complainants are advised as to the result of such investigations. In this way the public are encouraged to advise the department when in doubt. Complaints investigated have included insects being found in breakfast cereal, packaged sausages and minced beef; insect larva in canned tomatoes and in frozen chicken; bread and confectionary infected with mould growth; hessian fibres in bread, and decomposed cheese in cartons.

Successful prosecutions were instituted in three cases resulting in fines and costs totalling £85.

The inspectorate recorded 57 visits specifically for food inspection purposes which resulted in the destruction of the following foods:—

											Tons
Cooked Meat and Meat Products	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.015
Canned Meats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.026
Other Canned Foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.068
Fish (fresh)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.030
Frozen Foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.464
Other Foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.060
Total..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.933 tons

## Meat Inspection

The examination of carcasses and offals of 221,588 food animals in accordance with the Ministry's standard, at the two privately owned slaughterhouses represents an increased kill of 10% over the previous year's figure. In addition, seven consignments of imported carcasses in freight containers were despatched through the port of entry direct to the slaughterhouse where examination took place under the Imported Food Regulations. Figures for these imported carcasses are not included in this report. Neither of the slaughterhouses are licensed for the slaughter of horses.

### MEAT INSPECTED AND REJECTED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AT THE TWO PRIVATELY OWNED SLAUGHTERHOUSES, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1972.

(Figures for 1971 shown in brackets.)

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected .. .. .	1,667 (1,608)	5 (8)	2 (—)	3,832 (2,307)	216,091 (196,869)
<b>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</b>					
Whole carcasses rejected as unfit .. .. .	1	1	—	1	247
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected as unfit .. .. .	105	1	—	117	67,043
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	6.3% (12.0%)	40% (12.5%)	— (—)	4.9% (2.5%)	31.1% (33.4%)
<b>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</b>					
Whole carcasses rejected as unfit .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected as unfit .. .. .	1	—	—	—	7,520
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. .. .	.06% (.06%)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	3.4% (3.8%)
<b>CYSTICERCOSIS</b>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected as unfit .. .. .	1 (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	1 (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Generalised and totally rejected as unfit .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
<b>NUMBER OF ORGANS OR PARTS REJECTED—ALL DISEASES*</b>					
Heads .. .. .	1	—	—	—	5,567
Lungs .. .. .	15	—	—	47	26,379
Hearts .. .. .	1	—	—	1	11,638
Livers .. .. .	94	1	—	43	16,858
Kidneys .. .. .	—	—	—	—	4,781
Mesenteries .. .. .	3	—	—	—	12,627
Other parts .. .. .	16 lbs.	—	—	230 lbs.	70,630 lbs.
* These figures do not include instances where whole carcasses and all organs were rejected as unfit.					



The percentage of meat and offal rejected as unfit for human consumption amounted to 145 tons and was relegated for disposal under the Meat (Sterilization) Regulations 1969. Vehicles belonging to two firms conveying such unfit material were found not to comply with the Regulations but matters were rectified after due warning.

In certain cases, where more detailed investigation was thought necessary, specimens for pathological and histological examination were submitted to the Ministry's Animal Investigation Centre. Contact has also been made with the Ministry's Divisional Veterinary Officer where investigation at the farm of origin of diseased food animals has been thought necessary.

Three Meat Inspectors are employed full time at the main slaughterhouse but in order to maintain a 100% inspection of slaughtered animals it has been necessary to second a public health inspector to meat inspection during staff annual leave and sickness. Meat inspection at the smaller slaughterhouse is undertaken by the public health inspectorate.

There is a proposed increase in the slaughtering facilities in the area since plans have been received for a considerable extension to one slaughterhouse and the bringing back into production of a third slaughterhouse at Linton which ceased operation early in 1970.

New Regulations came into effect on the 1st January, 1972 which permitted an increase in meat inspection charges. The charges now applicable are:—Cattle—18p, Calf or Pig—5p, Sheep—4p. Applying these charges to the yearly throughput the income derived would be £11,258.

### Poultry Processing Establishments

Under the Slaughter of Poultry Act 1967 and Regulations made thereunder two premises are registered where the stunning of birds prior to slaughter is undertaken. These and four other premises which do not require registration are small in character and the trade is in the main, seasonal. Few birds are eviscerated. The premises are all inspected under the above enactment and also under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970.

## FACTORIES ACT 1961

The following sets out matters relative to the inspection of factories:—

### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	134	118	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	6	3	1	—
TOTAL .. .. .	140	121	3	—

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	3	4	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	10	8	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	2	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. ..	—	—	1	—	—
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

## 3. Outworkers.

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making, etc., of wearing apparel .. ..	27	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers ..	35	—	—	—	—	—
Cabinet and furniture making .. ..	13	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS .. ..</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

As can be seen from Table 2, defects found related to sanitary accommodation as this aspect is the main function of the public health inspectorate under the Act. However, visits to factory premises are made under many other enactments in relation to atmospheric pollution, petroleum storage, food hygiene, water supplies and control of statutory nuisances.

The Alkali Inspector has notified that two factory processes are registered under the Alkali Act, one being for the production of cement and the other concerned with chemical work processes.

There has been some increase in the number of persons engaged in doing outwork in their own homes. In no case has it come to the department's notice that work is being done contrary to the statutory requirements.

Two certificates as to wholesomeness of private water supplies to factories have been issued under Section 57 after samples had been obtained and submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Five factories come within the scope of the Offensive Trade Bylaws. Strict compliance with these bylaws is necessary if such manufactories are not to give rise to nuisance.

### **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963**

One establishment went out of business during the year leaving seven premises on register. Three premises have been further extended to permit of an increase in boarded animals.

One complaint of alleged bad animal husbandry was investigated but was not substantiated. An unfit private water supply was replaced by water from a new borehole. Initial inspections of premises are undertaken by a consultant veterinary surgeon but subsequent inspections are undertaken by the public health inspectors who recorded a total of sixteen visits. The services of the Fire Authority are sought on matters of fire protection.

### **PET ANIMALS ACT 1951**

One licence to keep a pet shop is in force covering such pets as hamsters, tortoises and goldfish etc. The premises have been inspected and found to be satisfactory.

### **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958**

Nineteen slaughtermen have been licensed to slaughter food animals by captive bolt pistol and electrothaler. No contraventions of the Act or Regulations designed to guard against cruelty to animals have been found. Two private slaughterhouses operate within the rural district.

### **SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964**

Council's responsibility under this enactment is to maintain a register of dealers. Seventeen dealers are on register, four have been exempted from keeping certain records of their transactions due to their being itinerant dealers in scrap metal. Prior to issuing such exemptions there is collaboration with the Police Authority.



## PETROLEUM ACTS AND REGULATIONS

The department has issued 148 storage licences during the year, covering petroleum spirit at the following locations:—

Retail sale filling stations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Private Storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
Storage in cans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Distribution storage depots	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Existing and new installations have been inspected and 108 visits are recorded. The following summarises action taken:—

New storage tanks and pipelines air pressure tested	..	..	..	..	..	5
Existing tanks and pipelines nitrogen gas pressure tested	..	..	..	..	..	3
Existing tanks failing the test	..	..	..	..	..	2

Existing installations:—

having defective electrical apparatus	..	..	..	..	..	2
having inadequate fire fighting facilities	..	..	..	..	..	2
absence of warning notices	..	..	..	..	..	5

A serious spillage of petroleum spirit was investigated. This occurred at a distribution depot during the filling of a storage tank from a road tanker. The spillage of several hundred gallons, was however contained within the brick bund wall and it slowly evaporated and seeped away. In consequence Council issued a strict warning to the Company who undertook certain disciplinary action together with stricter measures of control.





